

29 October 1962

Mr. Gene Methvin
READER'S DIGEST
1300 Connecticut Ave., N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Methvin:

Reference your recent request, John A. McCone,
the Director, will not be able to discuss the
subject with you.

The attached data may be of some value in your
story.

Sincerely,

Stanley J. Grogan
Assistant to the Director

Enclosure

On the evening of Monday, October 15th, analysis of photographs taken on Sunday, October 14th, revealed the probable evidence of medium range missiles in Cuba. This probability was reported to the White House Tuesday morning, and McCone, who was on that day in Seattle to attend the funeral of his stepson who had been killed on the 14th in an accident, was advised and returned to Washington on the first available plane.

The Central Intelligence Agency and the entire Intelligence Community worked continuously on analyzing the photographic product and preparing the necessary appraisals and estimates needed for proper policy consideration and decisions. The United States Intelligence Board, made up of senior intelligence officers from CIA, State, Defense, Army, Navy, Air Force and Atomic Energy Commission, met every day and sometimes more often to consider current intelligence and estimates as they evolved. As a result the President and his policy advisors were currently supplied with coordinated and considered judgment of the critical situation. McCone personally attended all meetings of the senior Government officials and with the National Security Council and with the President, in considering the alternative courses of action and reaching final decision as to the course we have followed. McCone, as a principal intelligence officer of the Government, continues to meet daily as a member of the Presidential appointive Executive Committee of the NSC.